

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9363
INFO ALL USCONS MEXICO POUCH

CONFIDENTIAL MEXICO 05663

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR, PDIP, MX, AL
SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF NEW AMBASSADOR TO ALBANIA

REF: MEXICO A-190 (1977)

1. GOM ANNOUNCED MARCH 31 THAT CAREER DIPLOMAT CARLOS GUTIERREZ MACIAS HAD BEEN NAMED AS AMBASSADOR TO ALBANIA.

2. AMBASSADOR GUTIERREZ ENTERED THE FOREIGN SERVICE IN 1927 AS A CONSULAR OFFICER. HE OCCUPIED A NUMBER OF POSTS AND SPENT TWELVE YEARS IN THE US, SERVING IN ARIZONA AND PENNSYLVANIA. WHILE IN THE US, HE ATTENDED THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH. IN 1946 HE WAS MADE A MEMBER OF THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE AND SERVED IN CUBA, ECUADOR, AND NORWAY. HE SERVED AS COUNSELOR IN SWEDEN (1949-1954), CHARGE D'AFFAIRES, AND LATER MINISTER IN THE PHILIPPINES (1954-1961), DIRECTOR OF CHANCERY IN THE FOREIGN SECRETARIAT (1961-1963), AMBASSADOR TO SWEDEN AND FINLAND, WITH RESIDENCE IN STOCKHOLM, (1963-1968), AMBASSADOR TO INDIA AND SRI LANKA, AND AFGHANISTAN WITH RESIDENCE IN NEW DELHI, (1968-1976), AND DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL OF THE SECRETARIAT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS (DECEMBER 1976-SEPTEMBER 1977). FOR BACKGROUND ON REASONS FOR DISMISSAL FROM PROTOCOL POSITION

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SEE MEXICO A-190 (1977).

3. GUTIERREZ, WHO IS IN HIS 70S, IS MARRIED TO EDITH A'DE GUTIERREZ, A NORWEGIAN. HE SPEAKS ENGLISH, NORWEGIAN, AND DANISH. GUTIERREZ HAS BEEN FRIENDLY TOWARD AMERICAN OFFICIALS THROUGHOUT HIS CAREER BUT HAS NEVER HESITATED TO CRITICIZE THE US. HE MAY STILL RESENT THE DISCRIMINATORY

TREATMENT HE FELT HE RECEIVED DURING HIS STAY IN THE US.
IT IS KNOWN THAT HE HAS A DRINKING PROBLEM.

4. THE REASONS BEHIND THE POSTING OF THE AGED AND EXPERIENCED GUTIERREZ TO ALBANIA IS SOMEWHAT OF A MYSTERY. EVEN THOUGH HIS ACTIONS AS CHIEF OF PROTOCOL OR HIS DRINKING PROBLEM DISPLEASED HIS SUPERIORS, THE ASSIGNMENT SEEMS RATHER A HARSH PUNISHMENT FOR A VETERAN OF 51 YEARS OF DIPLOMATIC SERVICE. CERTAINLY TIRANA DOES NOT SEEM TO BE A LOCALE TO CURE AN ALCOHOLIC PROBLEM. EMBASSY IS SURPRISED THAT GUTIERREZ, WHO COULD HAVE RETIRED, ACCEPTED THE POSITION. THOMPSON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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